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TWO YEAR SENTENCE IMPOSED FOR STUDENT AID FRAUD

Baltimore, Maryland - United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein announces that today U.S. District Court Judge William D. Quarles, Jr. sentenced Daniel A. Nwabufoh, age 48, of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio to 2 years in prison followed by 3 years of supervised release in connection with his guilty plea to student aid fraud. Judge Quarles also ordered Nwabufoh to pay restitution of \$138,634.43 to the U.S. Department of Education.

According to the agreed statement of facts presented to the court, Nwabufoh is originally from Nigeria. When he first came to the United States, he was issued a Social Security number based on a date of birth of 9/22/1956. He attended the University of Texas at Dallas where he received federal student loans on which he defaulted in 1987. In 1987-88, Nwabufoh used a Social Security number issued to another individual and the name Azubuike D. Nwabufoh to obtain federal student loans at the University of Southern California. The purpose of using the different name and Social Security number was to avoid disclosure of his previous, defaulted student loans. In 1990-91, Nwabufoh again used this name and the other individual's Social Security number to obtain federal student loans while attending California State University, Northridge.

According to the statement of facts, in 1997-2001, Nwabufoh used his true name and the other individual's Social Security number with a date of birth of September 22, 1964 to obtain federal loans and grants while attending the University of Maryland-Baltimore County. Nwabufoh had originally applied for this number in 1993 on an application in which he did not disclose previously issued numbers. Further, in 2001, Nwabufoh used another Social Security number with a date of birth of September 22, 1956 to obtain federal student loans and grants to attend the University of Akron. Nwabufoh had originally obtained this number in 1993 on an application in which he did not disclose previously issued numbers.

Total losses on the fraudulently obtained student loans, aid and grants were \$138,634.43.

The case was investigated by the United States Department of Education - Office of Inspector General and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Joyce K. McDonald.